

Robert J. Reidy, Jr.
Executive Director
rreidy@nyscoss.org

Robert B. McClure Superintendent-in-Residence mcclure@nyscoss.org

Robert N. Lowry, Jr.
Deputy Director for
Advocacy, Research and
Communications
boblowry@nyscoss.org

Kelly O. Masline Senior Associate Director kelly@nyscoss.org

Jacinda H. Conboy, Esq. General Counsel jacinda@nyscoss.org

Theresa A. Wutzer Associate Director theresa@nyscoss.org

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Putnam-No Westchester BOCES
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Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

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Chairman Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC, 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors,

CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On behalf of the New York State Council of School Superintendents and The Council's Executive Committee, we write today to urge you to appoint Dr. Daniel A. Domenech to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors as the representative for schools that are eligible to receive discounts, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Anne Bryant, Executive Director for the National School Boards Association (NSBA), pursuant to § 54.501. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to submit this nomination.

Dr. Domenech currently serves as the Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), the national professional organization representing chief executive officers, superintendents and senior level school administrators as well as cabinet members, professors and aspiring school system leaders. Dr. Domenech has more than 40 years of experience in public education, including 27 years served as a school superintendent. His education and leadership background would be a tremendous asset to the Board and entire universal service program. Further, his direct link to public school systems provides a sense of continuity when it comes to representing school system-level thoughts and opinions, as he would fill the spot currently held by the NSBA.

As the Executive Director for AASA, Dr. Domenech is deeply committed to supporting the total child, from physical and mental health to the development of fundamental, lifelong learning skills. In today's increasingly global and competitive world, a top notch education and the building of lifelong learning skills require access to education technology, and Dr. Domenech is acutely aware of the crucial role the E-Rate program plays in helping schools and libraries afford telecommunications connectivity.

Prior to AASA, Dr. Domenech worked at McGraw-Hill Education. Prior to his position at McGraw-Hill, Domenech served for seven years as superintendent of the Fairfax County, Va., Public Schools. Domenech began his teaching career in New York City, teaching sixth grade before becoming program director for the Nassau Board of

Cooperative Educational Services. He began his superintendency tenure at Long Island's Deer Park Schools, a position he also held at South Huntington School. He has also served as district superintendent in the Second Supervisory District of Suffolk County and chief executive officer of the Western Suffolk BOCES

Domenech, an AASA member since 1979, served as president of AASA from July 1998 to June 1999. He is also a past president of the New York State Council of School Superintendents, the Suffolk County Superintendents Association, and the Suffolk County Organization for Promotion of Education. He was the first president and cofounder of the New York State Association for Bilingual Education.

In addition, Domenech has served on the U.S. Department of Education's National Assessment Governing Board, on the advisory board for the Department of Defense schools, and on the Board of Overseers for the Baldrige Award. He is currently chair for Communities in Schools of Virginia, the Learning First Alliance, the Educational Research Service and the Board of Visitors for the College of Education at the University of West Georgia. He serves on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the National Student Clearinghouse, Americas Promise, the Center for Naval Analyses, and the Sea Research Foundation.

As a school system administrator and AASA member, I strongly support the appointment of Dr. Domenech to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. AASA has been working with the Commission to improve the E-rate program since its inception, and E-Rate is a critical program in our schools and the districts we serve. We believe that Dr. Domenech's broad understanding of education, education leadership and education technology, coupled with a strong work ethic and deep commitment to expanding educational opportunities to the nation's students will add to the work of USAC as it moves forward. His nomination to the USAC board provides continuity and leadership, filling the chair currently held the National School Boards Association with the voice of another school system leader, that of the school administrator/superintendent.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your approval of Dr. Domenech's nomination to the USAC Board of directors, representing schools that are eligible to receive discounts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Reidy, Jr. Executive Director

New York State Council of School Superintendents

cc: C. J. Reid